

## 1     Claims

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3     1.    A water treatment system comprising a host  
4           water treatment apparatus and a separable water  
5           treatment component, said component being  
6           useable in the host apparatus, wherein the  
7           component has an electronic circuit adapted to  
8           co-operate with an electronic circuit in the  
9           host apparatus.

10

11    2.    A water treatment system as claimed in Claim 1  
12           wherein the co-operation between the component  
13           and the host apparatus is either one way or  
14           two-way.

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16    3.    A water treatment system as claimed in Claim 1  
17           or Claim 2 wherein the component circuit and  
18           the host circuit communicate via one or more of  
19           the following transmittable waveforms: radio,  
20           infrared, optical and magnetic.

21

22    4.    A water treatment system as claimed Claim 1 or  
23           Claim 2 wherein the component circuit and the  
24           host circuit communicate by physical electrical  
25           contact.

26

27    5.    A water treatment system as claimed in any one  
28           of the preceding Claims wherein co-operation of  
29           the component circuit and the host circuit is  
30           only possible when the component is conjoined  
31           with the host apparatus.

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- 1      6.    A water treatment system as claimed in any one  
2           of the preceding Claims wherein the component  
3           circuit and/or the host circuit includes a  
4           memory capacity.  
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- 6      7.    A water treatment system as claimed in any one  
7           of the preceding Claims wherein each electronic  
8           circuit can read and/or interrogate the other  
9           electrical circuit.  
10
- 11     8.    A water treatment system as claimed in any one  
12           of the preceding Claims wherein the electrical  
13           circuit in the host apparatus includes a  
14           central processor, and the electrical circuit  
15           in the component includes a data chip.  
16
- 17     9.    A water treatment system as claimed in any one  
18           of the preceding Claims wherein the electronic  
19           circuit of the component provides an enablement  
20           signal to the electronic circuit of the host  
21           apparatus, and/or vice versa.  
22
- 23     10.   A water treatment system as claimed in Claim 9  
24           wherein the enablement signal includes means  
25           for the component or host apparatus to control  
26           the other part.  
27
- 28     11.   A water treatment system as claimed any one of  
29           the preceding Claims wherein the component and  
30           host inter-co-operate.  
31

- 1      12. A water treatment system as claimed in any one  
2            of the preceding Claims wherein the electronic  
3            circuit of the component includes at least a  
4            data tag.  
5
- 6      13. A water treatment system as claimed in Claim 12  
7            wherein presence of the data tag is identified  
8            by the electronic circuit of the host  
9            apparatus.  
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- 11     14. A water treatment system as claimed in any one  
12            of the preceding Claims wherein lack of co-  
13            operation between the electronic circuit of the  
14            component and electronic circuit of the host  
15            apparatus indicates the incorrect fitment  
16            and/or installation of the component with the  
17            host apparatus.  
18
- 19     15. A water treatment system as claimed in any one  
20            of the preceding Claims wherein lack of co-  
21            operation between the electronic circuit of the  
22            component and the electronic circuit of the  
23            unit identifies incorrect operation of the  
24            component and/or the host apparatus.  
25
- 26     16. A water treatment system as claimed in any one  
27            of the preceding Claims wherein information in  
28            the component is accessed from the component  
29            and displayed by the host apparatus.  
30
- 31     17. A water treatment system as claimed in any one  
32            of the preceding Claims wherein information

- 1           that is communicated between the electronic  
2           circuits of the component and the host  
3           apparatus is validation information, production  
4           information and/or manufacturing information.  
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- 6       18.   A host water treatment apparatus useable with a  
7           water treatment component to provide a water  
8           treatment system, said host apparatus having a  
9           electronic circuit adapted to co-operate with  
10          an electronic circuit in the component in a  
11          manner as defined in any one of Claims 1 to 17.  
12
- 13       19.   A separable treatment component useable with a  
14           host water treatment apparatus, said component  
15           having an electronic circuit adapted to co-  
16           operate with an electronic circuit in the host  
17           apparatus.  
18
- 19       20.   A treatment component as claimed in Claim 19  
20           wherein the component is a water treatment  
21           component adapted to provide a water treatment  
22           system in co-operation with the host apparatus.  
23
- 24       21.   A treatment component as claimed in Claim 19  
25           wherein the component is adapted to sanitise  
26           and/or clean one or more parts of the host  
27           apparatus.  
28
- 29       22.   A treatment component as claimed in any one of  
30           Claims 19 to 21 wherein the electronic circuits  
31           co-operate in a manner as defined in any one of  
32           Claims 1 to 17.

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2 23. A treatment component as claimed in any one of  
3 Claims 19 to 22 wherein the electronic circuit  
4 of the component is integral with the  
5 component.

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7 24. A treatment component as claimed in Claim 23  
8 wherein the electronic circuit is embedded into  
9 or mounted onto the component.

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11 25. A treatment component as claimed in any one of  
12 Claims 19 to 24 wherein the electronic circuit  
13 of the component includes a database having  
14 characterising data relating to the component.

15

16 26. A treatment component as claimed in any one of  
17 Claims 19 to 25 wherein the data of the  
18 component electronic circuit is encrypted.

19

20 27. A treatment component as claimed in any one of  
21 Claims 19 to 26 wherein the component is a  
22 consumable replaceable unit.

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24 28. A treatment component as claimed in Claim 27  
25 wherein the component is a cartridge.

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27 29. A water treatment component substantially as  
28 hereindescribed and with reference to Figure 1.